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## BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION RECEIVED

**COMMISSIONERS** 

GARY PIERCE - Chairman BOB STUMP SANDRA D. KENNEDY PAUL NEWMAN BRENDA BURNS 2011 APR 25 P 1:08

AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCKET CONTROL Arizona Corporation Commissio

DOCKETED

APR 2 5 2011

DOCKETED BY



IN THE MATTER OF:

RICHARD M. SCHMERMAN, individually and d/b/a Diversified Financial and/or Diversified Financial Planners, and Amy Schmerman, husband and wife.

RESPONDENTS.

<u>FIFTH</u>

DOCKET NO. S-20757A-10-0373

## <u>FIFTH</u> <u>PROCEDURAL ORDER</u> (Continues Status Conference)

## BY THE COMMISSION:

On September 9, 2010, the Securities Division ("Division") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") filed a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing ("Notice") against Richard M. Schmerman d/b/a Diversified Financial and/or Diversified Financial Planners ("Diversified) and Amy Schmerman, husband and wife (collectively "Respondents"), in which the Division alleged multiple violations of the Arizona Securities Act ("Act") and the Investment Management Act ("IM Act") in connection with Respondent Richard A. Schmerman's practices in business and securities matters which allegedly involved mishandling of client funds and misrepresentation.

The Respondents were duly served with copies of the Notice.

On September 20, 2010, a request for hearing was filed by the Respondents.

On September 22, 2010, by Procedural Order, a pre-hearing conference was scheduled on October 21, 2010.

On October 21, 2010, at the pre-hearing conference, the Division and Respondents appeared through counsel. The parties are discussing a possible resolution of the issues raised by the Notice, but have agreed in the interim that a status conference be scheduled in approximately 60 days.

On October 22, 2010, by Procedural Order, a status conference was scheduled on December 16, 2010.

On December 16, 2010, the Division and Respondents appeared through counsel at the status conference. The parties were continuing to discuss a resolution of the proceeding and in the interim, the Division requested that another status conference be scheduled in approximately 60 days.

On December 16, 2010, by Procedural Order, a status conference was scheduled on February 23, 2011.

On February 22, 2011, the Division and Respondents filed a Joint Stipulation to Continue the status conference for at least 60 days in order that the parties could continue to review matters and attempt to resolve the issues raised by the Notice.

On February 23, 2011, by Procedural Order, the status conference was continued from February 23, 2011, to April 25, 2011.

On April 22, 2011, the Division and Respondents filed another Joint Stipulation to Continue the status conference for at least 60 days to allow the parties to continue to work towards a settlement of the issues raised by the Notice.

Accordingly, the status conference should be continued.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the status conference scheduled on April 25, 2011, shall be continued to July 7, 2011, at 10:00 a.m., at the Commission's offices, 1200 West Washington Street, Hearing Room No. 1, Phoenix, Arizona.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ex Parte Rule (A.A.C. R14-3-113-Unauthorized Communications) applies to this proceeding as the matter is now set for public hearing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that withdrawal or representation must be made in compliance with A.A.C. R14-3-104(E) and Rule 1.16 of the Rules of Professional Conduct (under Rule 42 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court). Representation before the Commission includes appearances at all hearings and procedural conferences, as well as all Open Meetings for which the matter is scheduled for discussion, unless counsel has previously been granted permission to withdraw by the Administrative Law Judge or the Commission.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all parties must comply with Rules 31 and 38 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court and A.R.S. § 40-243 with respect to practice of law and admission *pro hac vice*.

1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Presiding Officer may rescind, alter, amend, or waive
2	any portion of this Procedural Order either by subsequent Procedural Order or by ruling at hearing.
3	DATED this
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6	Alle To Delin
7	MARC E. STERN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
8	ADMINISTRATIVE EAW JODGE
9	
10	Copies of the foregoing mailed/delivered this <b>25</b> day of April, 2011 to:
11	Alan Baskin
12	BADE & BASKIN, PLC 80 East Rio Salado Parkway, Suite 511
13	Tempe, AZ 85281 Attorney for Respondents
14	Matt Neubert, Director
15	Securities Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
16	1300 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007
17	ARIZONA REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
18	2200 North Central Avenue, Suite 502 Phoenix, AZ 85004
19	
20	By: Debra Broyles
21	Secretary to Marc E. Stern
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